

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

35

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TO: Secretary of State

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REFERENCE: EMBTEL 2787 MARCH 11

MINISTER ERHARD SENT WORD LAST NIGHT FROM PARIS THROUGH PERSONAL ASSISTANT, WHO HAD DISCUSSED AGENDA WASHINGTON VISIT WITH HIM. HIS PLANNING, AS WELL AS ECONOMICS MINISTRY- EMBASSY DISCUSSION YESTERDAY, PROCEEDED ON BASIS PROGRAM DATED MARCH 6. RECEIVED FROM GERMAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON.

ERHARD EXPRESSED GRATITUDE THAT HE COULD MEET PRESIDENT. ALSO STATED HE HOPED WOULD BE POSSIBLE HAVE SHORT TIME WITH SECRETARY DULLES ALONE. WE POINTED OUT THAT LUNCHEON ARRANGED WITH SECRETARY FOR 24TH COMPRISED ONLY SMALL CIRCLE, WHICH WOULD PERMIT RELATIVELY PRIVATE TALK, BUT AGREED TO TRANSMIT HIS WISHES TO DEPARTMENT. PERHAPS SECRETARY COULD SEE HIM FEW MINUTES ALONE BEFORE OR AFTER LUNCHEON.

IN EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH EMBASSY YESTERDAY, MINISTRY INDICATED IT WOULD ASK GERMAN EMBASSY SEEK FOLLOWING CHANGES:

AFTERNOON 25TH CONSIDERED TOO SHORT FOR ADEQUATE VISITS WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES NAMED. MOREOVER, THEY APPEARED DISSATISFIED WITH DETAIL AND EXTENT OF "WORKING SESSION" PLANNED MORNING 26TH. THEY WILL PROBABLY ENDEAVOR TRANSFER SOME VISITS FROM TUESDAY AFTERNOON TO WEDNESDAY MORNING, THUS SHORTENING WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION OR ELIMINATING IT ENTIRELY. OUTCOME DEPENDS PARTLY ON WHETHER SOME SENIOR ADVISER ACCOMPANIES MINISTER.

GERMANS ARE INTENSIVELY STUDYING WHETHER DR. MUELLER-ARMACK CAN BE SPARED FROM PRESENT ACTIVITIES FTA NEGOTIATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION WASHINGTON PORTION ERHARD VISIT. IF NOT, SOME OTHER ADVISER MAY BE CHOSEN.

TRIMBLE

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